

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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-----281212Z 008936 /14
R 271910Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8340
INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 8331

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP, AR, CI, UY
SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. LAWRENCE MCDONALD TRANSIT ARGENTINA

REF: (A) STATE 303025, (B) MONTEVIDEO 4938

1. URUGUAYAN EMBASSY NOTIFIED US DECEMBER 23 THAT CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. MCDONALD WOULD BE ARRIVING IN BUENOS AIRES FROM MONTEVIDEO THE MORNING OF THE 24TH BUT WOULD ONLY BE IN COUNTRY LONG ENOUGH TO CHANGE FROM AEROPARQUE TO EZEIZA TO PICK UP FLIGHT TO BRAZIL. URUGUAYAN EMBOFF INDICATED HE HAD SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM GOU TO MEET CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD AT AEROPARQUE AND TO OFFER EMBASSY CAR TO TRANSPORT HIM TO EZEIZA IF HE SO WISHED. EMBOFF SAID HE WOULD CARRY OUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS BUT THAT EVEN THOUGH MCDONALD WAS GUEST OF GOU HE HAD WISHED TO INFORM US AND THAT IF WE WISHED TO MEET CONGRESSMAN AND OFFER USE OF AMERICAN EMBASSY CAR, HE WOULD DEFER TO OUR WISHES. AMBASSADOR HILL HAD DUTY OFFICER MEET CONGRESSMAN AND WIFE AT AEROPARQUE MORNING OF 24TH TO OFFER USE OF EMBASSY CAR AND TO INVITE THEM TO HAVE COFFEE AT RESIDENCE WITH AMBASSADOR AND MRS. HILL IF THEY HAD TIME BETWEEN PLANES.

2. UPON ARRIVAL CONGRESSMAN ACCEPTED AMBASSADOR'S INVITATION AND SPENT HOUR AND A HALF AT THE RESIDENCE BEFORE BEING TAKEN
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BY EMBASSY CAR TO EZEIZA. HE SAID HE SORRY HE UNABLE TO SPEND MORE TIME IN ARGENTINA ON THIS TRIP BUT THAT HE HAD PROMISED HIS WIFE THEY WOULD BE IN CALIFORNIA FOR A REUNION WITH HER FAMILY ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

3. CONGRESSMAN SAID HE HAD VISITED BOTH URUGUAY AND CHILE AS

THE GUEST OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS AND THAT HE FELT HIS VISITS HAD BEEN MOST SUCCESSFUL. THIS WAS NOT HIS FIRST TRIP, HE POINTED OUT; RATHER, HE HAD VISITED BOTH SOME 18 MONTHS AGO. CONGRESSMAN INDICATED HE WILL CONTINUE WHEN CONGRESS RECONVENES TO SUPPORT THROUGH STATEMENTS ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE AND OTHER MEANS THE EFFORTS OF THE GOU AND GOC TO PREVENT COMMUNIST TAKEOVERS IN THEIR COUNTRIES. HE SAID HE FELT ARGENTINA TOO DESERVES SUPPORT AND HE HOPED TO RETURN WITH FOUR COLLEAGUES FOR A VISIT HERE DURING THE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY OR EASTER CONGRESSIONAL RECESSES.
HILL

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